

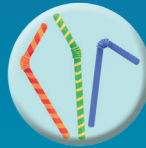


MISSION OCEAN

Educational Eco Guide



WHY IS PLASTIC A PROBLEM?



It's made from oil, pumped from underground, which travels long ways in pipes, ships and trucks, using lots of energy. Sometimes it leaks or spills, making the land and water dirty and dangerous for animals and people.



Every year, millions of tons of plastic winds up in rivers and oceans, where it hurts animals. Sea turtles, birds, fish, and mammals get sick from eating it, or they get tangled in it and can't swim or fly.



Some of the plastic gets caught in circular currents, forming huge ocean garbage patches. There, it breaks into tiny microplastics that are difficult to clean up, and easy for sea animals to eat by mistake.





YOU CAN HELP!

CLEAN UP LITTER

When you pick up trash from the ground, it won't wash into a river in the next storm. Challenge your family to pick up and recycle as much plastic as they can find in one day!

PLAN AHEAD FOR THE PLANET

Before getting an item, think about what happens when it wears out. Items made with wood or cardboard (like this game!) can be composted and turned into nice healthy soil.

FIND WAYS TO USE LESS PLASTIC

For example, stop using bottled water and carry a reusable bottle instead. Instead of balloons, use tissue pom poms. Try bar soap instead of liquid soap in a plastic bottle.

LIMIT PLASTIC FABRICS

Avoid polyester and fleece: each time they are washed, plastic threads break off and pollute the water. Choose natural fabrics like cotton and wool.

GET INVOLVED

Learn more about environmental issues and their causes, so you can find creative solutions to ecological challenges and invent new ways to solve current issues!

SUPPORT NONPROFITS

Hold a bake sale or yard sale to increase awareness about the issue, and donate your profits to The Ocean Cleanup or other nonprofits that fight plastic pollution.

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